U.S. Department of Energy Sustainability Performance Office

DOE Sustainability SPOtlight

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Sustainability News

ANL Selected as Federal Better Buildings Competition Finalist

Argonne National Laboratory's Building 224 was recently selected as a finalist in the FEMP Better Buildings Federal Award 2013 Competition. Through August 30, 2013, Building 224 will compete against 11 other Federal buildings to see which can reduce its energy use the most from a August 2012 baseline. To see the full list of building finalists visit http://go.usa.gov/g4Hh.

Government Procurement Standards Promotes Private Investment

The Harvard Business School recently released a working paper, *Public Procurement and the Private Supply of Green Buildings*, outlining the effects of green government procurement standards on private sector investment. The paper found that government purchasing standards and procurement rules stimulate private sector adoption and supplier investments in those goods, services, and technologies. To view the abstract or download the full report, visit http://hbswk.hbs.edu/item/7099.html.

Success Stories

Y-12 Building Meets Guiding Principles for Existing Buildings

Y-12's Jack Case Center recently met all existing building guiding principles requirements to become the site's first High Performance Sustainable Building! The renovation project installed occupancy sensors and smart plug strips, implemented building setbacks, and reduced potable water. As a result of these improvements, energy consumption at the building has been reduced 30 percent from the 2007 baseline after the first six months. The total implementation cost for the building upgrade was $185,000 and has already saved $250,000.

DOE project manager Christy Holt and B&W project manager Jane Nations guided the project with strong senior management support, which proved instrumental in ensuring success. For more information, contact Christy Holt (holtct@yso.doe.gov) or Jane Nations (nationsja@y12.doe.gov).

Y-12's Jack Case Center

Sustainability Superstar

A big thanks and congratulations to the sustainability team at the Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) for being the first site to submit their FY 2012 Site Sustainability Plan and Consolidated Energy Data Report.

To learn more about OSTI's mission, visit www.osti.gov.

Send us your champion!

ORNL's new Titan Supercomputer recently became the world's fastest computer, surpassing the mark set by LLNL's Sequoia earlier this summer. DOE now holds 3 of the top 5 spots on the list. Titan is 10 times (1,000 percent) more powerful than its predecessor Jaguar (which was the world's fastest in 2009), but uses only 28 percent more electricity. At 9 MW of peak energy consumption, Titan is one of many high energy intensive projects run by DOE that are critical to improving our nation's scientific knowledge and energy research. http://go.usa.gov/g4sB

The greengov Leader ***Check out CEQ's latest GreenGov Leader newsletter: http://go.usa.gov/g8yT***

Did You Know? Home heating and cooling typically accounts for more than half of your utility bills. To stay warm while saving money this winter, DOE compiled a short list of the best heat saving tips submitted by users to Twitter. http://go.usa.gov/g464
Follow the Sustainability Performance Office on Twitter! —> @sustainableDOE

Upcoming Events and Milestones

(Click to view SPO Calendar)

Happy Holidays!

Events

Dec. 7: SSP and CEDR due to SPO

Courses

Dec. 7: IT Energy Savings for Non-Techies: Getting to Yes

Dec. 11: EPA Federal Green Challenge Overview

Dec. 13: Data Center Energy Efficiency

Dec. 20: The Federal Guiding Principles Checklist in Portfolio Manager

On-Demand Training

Financing

ESPCs for Small Sites

UESCs and Energy Project Funds

Buildings

Commissioning for Federal Facilities

Operations, Maintenance, and Commissioning

Implementing Deep Retrofits

Water

Water Efficiency Planning and Implementation

Data Centers

Data Center Efficiency to ASHRAE Thermal Guidelines

Labs, Data Centers and High-Tech Facilities

Greenhouse Gas Reporting

Federal GHG Accounting and Reporting

ORNL Installs Additional EV Charging

ORNL's advanced charging station services multiple vehicles

Three additional electric vehicle (EV) charging stations were installed on ORNL's campus, bringing the total number of charging stations to 28. A new DC Fast Charger was installed, which can support two EVs simultaneously and automatically switches to the second after the first vehicle is charged. For a Nissan Leaf, this charger can provide up to 80 percent of maximum charge in approximately 30 minutes.

Two Level 2 chargers were also installed on the first floor of the parking facility. These chargers will re-charge a 50-percent depleted Nissan Leaf battery in about 3.5 hours and will accommodate Chevy Volts and other commercially-produced plug-in vehicles.

It is estimated that the solar electricity produced annually at each parking station is sufficient for an EV to be driven approximately 10,000 miles. For more information on ORNL's EV charging efforts, contact Curt Maxey at maxeylc@ornl.gov.

PNNL Develops Pervious Concrete to Eliminate Erosion and Save Water

The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) recently replaced areas of grass with pervious concrete for walkways outside its Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory. This innovative material allows water to pass through the surface to facilitate ground water re-charge while eliminating soil erosion. As a result, PNNL expects to save 500,000 gallons of irrigation water each year. PNNL partnered with local businesses to develop this material and became the first organization in the Tri-Cities, Washington area to use pervious concrete in support of sustainable operations. To learn more about PNNL's sustainability efforts and see a video recently produced by the Lab, visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtLrdQG5fLs.

Germantown Solar Array Ribbon Cutting

Germantown Solar Array ribbon cutting ceremony. From left: Sean Whinnie (Pepco) ; David Benham, (GSA), Ingrid Kolb, Peter O'Konski, and Michael Watkins (DOE). Photo by Charles Watkins (DOE).

On November 16, DOE celebrated completion of a new 370 kilowatt photovoltaic solar array on the DOE headquarters Germantown campus. The array includes ground-mounted solar panels and a solar panel covered car port with an electric vehicle charging station. The new solar array will generate approximately 450,000 kilowatt hours of electricity each year and reduce annual scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 350 metric tons. DOE completed the project in partnership with the General Services Administration and PEPCO Energy Services.

The last day for contributions to the Combined Federal Campaign is December 15. For more information on setting up a recurring contribution or a one-time gift, visit http://go.usa.gov/gKKz.

Site Scorecards Posted to Powerpedia – DOE Site Sustainability Scorecards were added to DOE's Powerpedia site. The FY 2011 scorecards outline DOE's corporate sustainability goals and track site-level progress. To view the scorecards, visit http://go.usa.gov/gKyx.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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